



{In Archive} The R6 Universe

AI Armendariz to: Lawrence Elworth, Peter Grevatt, Lisa Heinzerling, Lisa Garcia, Janet Woodka, Arthur Elkins, Malcolm Jackson, Robert

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From: AI Armendariz/R6/USEPA/US
To: Lawrence Elworth/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Peter Grevatt/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Lisa Heinzerling/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Lisa Garcia/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Janet Woodka/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Arthur Elkins/OIG/USEPA/US@EPA, Malcolm
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HQ Colleagues,

Last week I sent the attached pdf file to the Administrator, the other RA's, and the AA's that serve as the national program managers for our large budgetary programs. It's a presentation about all of our favorite topic: money. As you can see, I tried to highlight what I think are some of the **acute** challenges facing **R6** right now, in admittedly a very selfish way, but also a way that highlighted how our historical staffing decisions within EPA might affect successful implementation of the Administrator's priorities.

Because the issues outlined in the presentation really touch all of the offices within the Agency, I thought it would be a good idea to share it with the broader group including yourselves.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments. I am happy to discuss at any time.

Best regards,

AI

----- Forwarded by AI Armendariz/R6/USEPA/US on 07/21/2010 09:20 AM -----

From: AI Armendariz/R6/USEPA/US
To: "Barbara Bennett" <bennett.barbara@epa.gov>, Bob Perciasepe/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Diane Thompson/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Richard Windsor/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, "Gina McCarthy" <mccarthy.gina@epa.gov>, "Peter Silva" <silva.peter@epa.gov>, Mathy Stanislaus/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Cynthia Giles-AA/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, "Michelle Depass" <depass.michelle@epa.gov>, "Scott Fulton" <fulton.scott@epa.gov>, Paul Anastas/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Bob Sussman/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Craig Hooks/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Seth Oster/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, "David McIntosh" <mcintosh.david@epa.gov>, Curt Spalding/R1/USEPA/US@EPA, "Judith Enck" <enck.judith@epa.gov>, "Steve Owens" <owens.steve@epa.gov>, Shawn Garvin/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Stan Meiburg/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Susan Hedman/R5/USEPA/US@EPA, Lawrence Starfield/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Karl Brooks/R7/USEPA/US@EPA, JamesB Martin/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Jared Blumenfeld/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Dennis McLerran/R10/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: AI Armendariz/R6/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 07/18/2010 10:58 PM
Subject: The R6 Universe

Administrator and Colleagues,

Attached is a presentation I have been thinking about for quite a while, and finally got around to finishing. I want to thank Bob P. and Barbara for giving me time last week to walk them through it in person, and for their patience in sitting through all 49 slides. I asked, and they agreed, that the next step would be to send it to the full group.

I realize that the document is undoubtedly provocative. But I hope you read it in the spirit in which it is intended, as a request for assistance. I honestly don't envy anyone's resources. Our agency is so completely underfunded to achieve all that it can, without a doubt all of us are doing tremendous amounts of good with every dollar of resources that we have.

Nonetheless, things here in Region 6 are getting serious on several fronts, which I hope are illustrated in the attached file. As I explained to Bob, Barbara, and Diane last week, I'll be reaching out and looking to have some in-depth discussions about short, medium, and long term measures that could help the situation. (and by short, medium, and long, I'm measuring in weeks, not years).

Human nature being what it is, I recognize that I may have just spurred 9 of my good friends on the "To:" list to immediately start crafting their own presentations. Which I suppose is exactly what needs to happen. However we decide to allocate resources moving forward, one of my goals is that if (for whatever reason) the resources in R6 stay approximately where they have been for 20 years, that decision is because of an active, informed, and deliberate policy call by those of us reading this email, and not a historical artifact because the relevant issues were never brought to the attention of the entire political body by the R6 RA because he/she had other priorities at the time.

I am happy and look forward to discussing with all of you. With respect and friendship,

Al



The R6 Universe.pdf